



Congressman

SHERROD BROWN

REPORTS TO SENIORS

JUNE 2004

June, 2004

Dear Friends:

Ohio seniors, like many older Americans, are concerned about the price of prescription drugs.

Prescription drug pricing is back on Congress' agenda. The actions we take – or fail to take – in Washington will determine if Ohio's seniors can obtain the medicine they need at affordable prices.

The prescription drug industry is treating U.S. consumers unfairly, and your representatives in Congress have a responsibility to do something about it.

Please contact my office if we can assist you.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown

Medicare Launches New Prescription Drug Discount Card

Beginning this month, seniors and disabled Americans can use Medicare-sponsored cards for discounts on prescription drugs. Some low-income seniors may also be eligible for up to \$600 to cover prescription purchases.

Because the new program will benefit some seniors, it deserves a close look. The benefits vary from person to person and card to card, and many seniors have found the new program complicated.

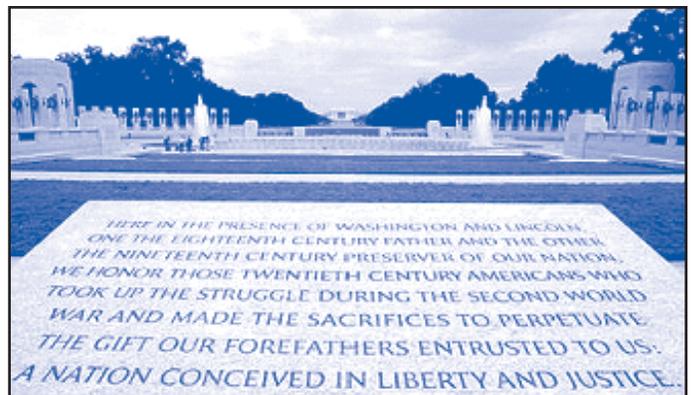
You can learn more by calling **1-800-MEDICARE** (633-4227). Medicare's Website (www.medicare.gov) allows you to compare discount card benefits and coverage online. You can also get answers to frequently-asked questions about the new discount card program on my Website: www.house.gov/sherrodbrown.

The new discount cards will help some seniors, but as always, it is important to read the fine print.

WWII Memorial Opens

The National World War II Memorial in Washington opened on Memorial Day. Veterans from Ohio's 13th District were among more than 100,000 veterans who participated in the memorial's dedication. Learn more online at:

www.nps.gov/nwwm/.



For more information visit me at:

www.house.gov/sherrodbrown

Congress Must Act on Prescription Drug Importation

A solid, bipartisan majority in the House passed legislation last year that would give Americans access to safe, effective, much more affordable prescription drugs from Canada and other allied nations. The U.S. Senate has begun debating importation legislation, and I have urged speedy Senate action.

The drug industry routinely charges American consumers two, three, or five-times more than Canadian consumers for the same medicine. Their monopoly on the lucrative American market has proved highly profitable for drug companies, but it imposes a multibillion-dollar tax on our economy.

The U.S. Senate must act now so Congress can send a responsible, bipartisan prescription drug importation bill to the President's desk before the 4th of July. America needs a Declaration of Independence from the drug industry, and nothing would be more appropriate than a White House signing ceremony on Independence Day.



At a Capitol Hill press conference, Congressman Brown discusses legislation to allow prescription drug importation.

How to Reach Key Agencies

- Medicare Information Hotline**1-800-MEDICAR(e)
- Medicare Fraud and Abuse Hotline**1-800-447-8477
- Administration on Aging Eldercare Locator**1-800-677-1116
- Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Hotline**1-800-686-1578
- Ohio Medicaid Hotline**1-800-324-8680



Mark Your Calendar for July's Medicare Forums

Tuesday, July 6, 2004

- 10:00 a.m. Barberton Public Library
- 1:00 p.m. Channelwood Village
- 4:00 p.m. Lawton Street Community Center

Tuesday, July 13, 2004

- 10:00 a.m. Dan Calabrese Center for Performing Arts at North Royalton High School

Wednesday, July 7, 2004

- 10:00 a.m. Strongsville Senior Center
- 1:00 p.m. Brecksville Community Center
- 4:00 p.m. Hinckley Town Hall

Thursday, July 15, 2004

- 10:00 a.m. Columbia Fire Department
- 1:00 p.m. Brunswick Recreation Center
- 4:00 p.m. Broadview Center

Congressman
SHERROD BROWN
Here to Serve You

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